

Message Text

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SUBJECT: UNIONIST DISUNITY AT TWELFTH CELEBRATIONS

1. ANNIVERSARY OF BATTLE OF BOYNE JULY 12 TRADITIONALLY THE ANNUAL HIGH POINT OF ORANGE ORDER AND PROTESTANT CELEBRATIONS PASSED GENERALLY PEACEFULLY IN NORTHERN IRELAND. PRESS ESTIMATED THERE 70,000 MARCHERS THROUGHOUT PROVINCE, 20,000 IN BELFAST ALONE. SPEECHES FROM VARIOUS PLATFORMS LACKED SECTARIAN INVECTIVE BUT ILLUSTRATED POLITICAL DIVISIONS AMONG LOYALISTS. GRAND MASTER REVEREND MARTIN SMYTH IN BELFAST FOUND MIDDLE GROUND WITH CALL TO PRESS GOVERNMENT TO RESTORE "...PROPER DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS. IN THIS REGARD, THE ORANGE INSTITUTION, AS IN THE PAST, WILL BE PREPARED NOT ONLY TO GIVE LEADERSHIP, BUT TO WORK WITH OTHERS TO ACHIEVE THAT GOAL." HECKLING OF SMYTH (WHO PARTICIPATING IN TALKS WITH SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR PARTY, (SDLP) WAS MINOR. ORANGEMAN WILLIAM CRAIG SHOCKED BRETHREN AT BROUGHSHANE COUNTY ANTRIM BY DESCRIBING ORANGE ORDER AS IMPOTENT FORCE AND ACTIONS OF UNITED ULSTER UNIONIST COALITION IN CONVENTION FAILURE AS DISASTROUS AND STUPID. UNITED ULSTER UNIONIST MOVEMENT LEADER ERNEST BAIRD SHARING PLATFORM WITH OFFICIAL UNIONIST HARRY WEST AT BROOKEBOROUGH, COUNTY FERMANAGH, IN ALLUSION TO UNIONIST/SDLP TALKS TERMED IT "FOOLISH" TO GIVE PROPAGANDA TO ENEMIES BY CONCEDING

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THAT SDLP HAD A VETO IN ANY FUTURE NORTHERN IRELAND

GOVERNMENT.

2. IN SUM, NO CALLS FOR NEW DEPARTURES AND NO EVIDENCE OF NEW PRESSURE CAMPAIGNS IN CONTRAST WITH SPEECHES OTHER YEARS, E.G. 1974 THAT HERALDED CLAMOR FOR "THIRD FORCE" TO DEFEAT TERRORISTS. CRAIG WHOSE POLITICAL STRENGTH HAS BEEN TRADITIONALLY AMONG URBAN WORKERS, PROBABLY DID NOT LOSE MUCH MORE OF HIS BASE BY HIS REMARKS BUT HE COULD HARDLY HAVE GAINED BY THEM.

3. MASSIVE SECURITY PRECAUTIONS PREVAILED INCLUDING USE OF CANVAS SCREENS TO SHIELD RESIDENTS MINORITY NEIGHBORHOODS FROM SIGHT OF PARADES. THERE NO VIOLENCE CONNECTED WITH OBSERVANCE EXCEPT FOR ABORTIVE ATTEMPT AT RANDALLSTOWN BY TWO MEN TO PLANT COOKIE BOX BOMB AT PARADE ASSEMBLY POINT.

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